

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
PROCLAMATION

EO 97-07

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME — GREETINGS:

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER TO ENSURE ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF GRANTS, PERSONAL SERVICE CONTRACTS, AND PURCHASING AGREEMENTS.

WHEREAS, Article 6, Section 7 of the Constitution of Arkansas authorizes the governor to require information in writing from the officers of the executive department on any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices to see that the laws are faithfully executed; and

WHEREAS, faithfully executing the laws of the state of Arkansas includes constant vigilance over the administration of grants, personal service contracts and purchasing agreements to constantly ensure accountability and propriety; and

WHEREAS, officers of the executive department should not be bound to execute any legislative act which, in their judgment, is repugnant to the constitution, or lacks accountability and propriety; and

WHEREAS, the executive department is practically limited to two methods of regulating such transactions; (1)exercise of the veto power and (2)proper administration of those agencies, departments and divisions under executive department control;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mike Huckabee, Governor of the State of Arkansas, acting under the authority vested in me, do hereby order and commission the following:

1. All agency heads, department directors and division directors of state government are instructed to complete, no later than September 26, 1997, a comprehensive review of all grants, personal service contracts or purchasing agreements to which the agency, department or division is a party and the process by which those agreements were entered into.

2. The purpose of the review will be to ensure the accountability and propriety of each grant, contract or agreement and all procedures related to the administration of those grants, contracts or agreements.

3. The definition of the terms accountability and propriety should necessarily include an examination of whether services or materials promised are being provided, and if so, whether they are being provided at a fair value to the taxpayers of Arkansas.

4. Special attention should be focused on those grants, personal service contracts or purchasing agreements involving current or former legislators or state employees, or entities under their control.

5. Agencies shall submit a written report to the office of the governor no later than September 29, 1997, of the findings of the review.

6. Nothing in this directive should be construed to imply directly or indirectly that it is improper or illegal under existing law for a current or former legislator or state employee to be engaged in business with the state by virtue of a grant, personal service contract or purchasing agreement. However, these agreements should receive special scrutiny in light of revelations since the adjournment of the 1997 legislative session.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed at the Capitol in Little Rock on this 19th day of September in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred ninety-seven.



GOVERNOR MIKE HUCKABEE

SECRETARY OF STATE SHARON PRIEST